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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****MAY 22 2006****FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** May 22, 2006**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 10/758071-Conf. #5108

Patent Number

Inventor: Masaru ODAJIMA et al.**MESSAGE TO:** US Patent and Trademark Office/MS AF**FAX NUMBER:** (571) 275-8300**FROM:** LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

Anthony A. Laurentano/WEW

PHONE: (617) 227-7400**Attorney Dkt. #:** TOW-059**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 10**CONTENTS:** Transmittal (1 page)
Amendment/Reply (7 pages)
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PTO/SB/97 (09-04)

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Application No. (if known): 10/758071

Attorney Docket No.: TOW-059

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Transmittal (1 page)

Amendment/Reply (7 pages)

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MAY 22 2006

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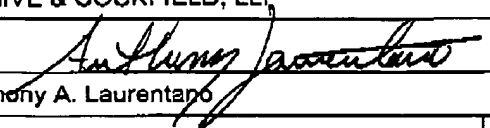
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TRANSMITTAL FORM <small>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small>	Application Number	10/758071-Conf. #5108
	Filing Date	January 14, 2004
	First Named Inventor	Masaru ODAJIMA
	Art Unit	1725
	Examiner Name	M. Aboagye
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	TOW-059

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Remarks</div>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Anthony A. Laurentano		
Date	May 22, 2006	Reg. No.	38,220

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Docket No.: TOW-059
(PATENT)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:
Masaru Odajima *et al.*

Application No.: 10/758071

Confirmation No.: 5108

Filed: January 14, 2004

Art Unit: 1725

For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR
FRICTION STIR WELDING

Examiner: M. Aboagye

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated February 21, 2006, finally rejecting claims 1, 4, and 5, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.